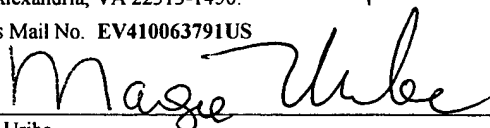


PATENT

I hereby certify that on May 5, 2004, which is the date I am signing this certificate, I am depositing this correspondence and all identified attachments with the U.S. Postal Service, as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" with postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Express Mail No. EV410063791US

Margie Uribe



Applicant: Raymond Heidel

Divisional Application of

Serial No.: 09/722,856

Filed: May 5, 2004

Title: Note Acceptor-Dispenser Validator

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Attorney Docket No.: 41286-00036

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

An Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

An Amendment to the Claims as reflected in the **Listing of Claims** which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.